

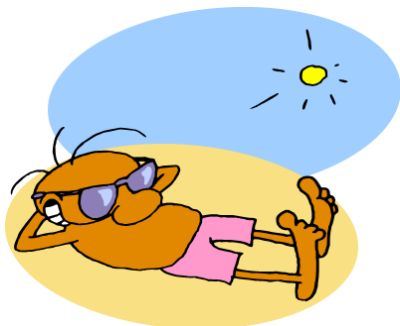
# ECCC



## El Cerrito Community Newsletter

Volume Six: Number 8

July, 2011



**Enjoy Your Summer!**

### **ECCC Meeting – Thursday, July 21, 2011**

Come join us in saying "Farewell" to Lt. Chuck Kaye and introduce yourself to Lt. Andrew Hoffman who takes over Lt. Kaye's job.

Do you have a concern or issue you would like the ECCC to address? Please come by and tell us about it. We are more than willing to help.

Also, Mr. Jim Bartell of Bartell & Associates will give an overview for the Northgate Gonzales Market planned for the site next to the K-Mart at 54th Street and University Avenue, which is scheduled to open at the end of July. The store will have a large meat department, bakery, tortilleria (where they make fresh tortillas on site), fresh produce and prepared foods.

We did arrange for a representative to address the issues with the Rapid Transit System on El Cajon Blvd between 54<sup>th</sup> Street & College Avenue. At the time of printing, we have not received confirmation of whether or not they will be in attendance.

### **Newsletter Donations – Thank You for Your Help**

Whenever the ECCC puts out a "cry for help," to have sufficient funds to print the newsletter and have it delivered to your home, our wonderful residents always come through for us. Needless to say, we are always amazed and grateful for the generous contributions we receive. Our anonymous donors this month were: \$25 – Street unknown, \$40 from Alcorn Place and two very generous donations of \$100 from a resident on Corinth Street and "Olive on Alice." Simon O'Leary & Susan King gave \$150 via PayPal. Your help and support is always truly appreciated. **You can also donate using our**

**PayPal link on the ECCC Blog at:**

<http://elcerritocommunitycouncil.blogspot.com/>

### **Let's All Have Fun at ECCC's Annual Pot-Luck & Silent Auction**

We'd like to see the biggest turnout ever for our Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup> annual summer community pot luck. Most community council's are blacked out in August, but the ECCC believes in having some fun. Come and join us. We promise good company, and even more importantly good food. Just bring your favorite dish and the ECCC will do the rest! Couldn't be easier!

We also hold a silent auction where anyone in the community can bring their treasures or unwanted items to auction off. From unwanted DVD's, books, recycled gifts, jewelry, - anything you don't have a use for that is in good condition. These usually go for a "song," so a lot of good bargains can be had. We ask if your treasure does not sell, you take it home with you! – Sorry!

### **Lt Chuck Kaye Leaving Mid-City Division Police**



Friday, July 8, was Lt. Chuck Kaye's last day at Mid-City. He is moving on to Vice. On Tuesday, Carl Luster, Terry & B.J. Nystrom & Jan Riley attended a farewell ceremony for Chuck. He will truly be missed by the El Cerrito Community. A presentation to Chuck will be made at the July 21, 2011 ECCC meeting. We'd like to give a big welcome to Lt. Andrew Hoffman and look forward to working with him in the future. His e-mail is: [ahoffman@pd.sandiego.gov](mailto:ahoffman@pd.sandiego.gov).

We are also pleased to announce that **Officer Jenny Hall** is returning as the Community Relations Officer for the north side of the Boulevard until the transition to Eastern Division takes place in September. Officer Hall's e-mail is: [jmason@pd.sandiego.gov](mailto:jmason@pd.sandiego.gov). SDPD website is:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/police/neighborhood/index.shtml>.

### **The El Cerrito Summer of Fun 2011 Idea Launch!!!!**

Several El Cerrito neighbors have discussed the idea of having neighborhood events & activities. These events would not only be fun; but, it would allow opportunities for us to get to know everyone in El Cerrito vs. only to know our neighbors on our streets. It's an excellent opportunity for us to create a very supportive, tight, and small town feel to our very urban neighborhood. Again, this is nothing formal... just people introducing themselves to each other and talking about their neighborhood, life in general, and getting to know each other. There is not an urban neighborhood in San Diego that has attempted this type of neighborhood collective.

### **El Cerrito Summer of Fun 2011 at the San Diego Desserts.**

Mark, the owner of the San Diego Desserts, has invited us to his place for El Cerrito summer happy hours. San Diego Desserts at 5987 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego, CA 92115 is hosting happy hours for us from 4:30 to 6:30 on the following dates:

**July 29th**

**August 26th**

**September 30th**

OK....so here's the plan: Come and introduce yourself to people you don't know, tell them what street you live on, and then enjoy getting to know your new El Cerrito neighbors. Mark has an excellent happy hour menu. Some parking is available; however, please walk there if you can. Hope to see you there!

### **El Cerrito Summer of Fun 2011:**

Let's make it an El Cerrito Summer of Fun 2011 at the Balboa Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Meet on the shady-side and look for any of your El Cerrito neighbors. If you know another neighbor from a different street, please introduce that neighbor to your friends & neighbors. New neighbors keep meeting and through these types of activities we form a tight community to support the great neighborhood of El Cerrito. We also have fun in the process! If you want to go to the El Prado restaurant or anywhere after the concert, it's your call. (Please pass the word if your neighbor does not have email access)

**Here's the schedule of the Balboa Speckles Organ Pavilion:**

- **July 19 Ron Jermaine-Music of the Big Band Era (40'&50"s)**
- **July 26 Bayou Brothers – Cajun/Zydeco**
- **Aug. 2 San Diego Concert Band – Classical to Pops; Sousa to the Beatles**
- **Aug. 9 Corvallis-Motown**
- **Aug. 16 Coronado Big Band-Swing**
- **Aug. 23 Moonlight Serenade Orchestra**

Any questions, please call Jan Riley 619-287-2460 or [jan.riley@cox.net](mailto:jan.riley@cox.net).

### **Three Options Proposed for University Avenue Corridor Mobility Study**

By Carl Luster

***The next community workshop for input on these options is set for Thursday July 21 at the Teen Challenge Center, 5450 Lea Street, between 6:30 pm & 8:00 pm. (Stop by on the way to the ECCC Meeting at 7:00 the same evening.)***

With funding from the Crossroads Redevelopment Area, planners and consultants have developed three options for improvements to all modes of transportation on University Avenue from 54th Street to 69th Street. The goal of the University Avenue Corridor Mobility Study is to identify short-mid and long term projects that will improve pedestrian access, bicycle facilities and accessibility, transit operations and facilities and traffic flow in the corridor.

Key elements of the proposals include realignment of Chollas Parkway to an intersection with a traffic signal at University Avenue. Elimination of free right turn lanes is proposed at 54th and 58th Streets, slowing traffic and reducing crossing distance at intersections with large numbers of pedestrians. Left turn lanes are proposed for 58th Street at University Avenue. A pedestrian ramp is proposed to improve access to the bus stop on the north side of University Avenue between 58th Street and 60th Street. Raised medians are proposed from 54th Street to 69th Street, and sidewalks are proposed where they are missing now.

Comments on these plans can also be made to the City by contacting Thomas Landre at [tlandre@sandiego.gov](mailto:tlandre@sandiego.gov) or to the project consultants by contacting Greg Parks at [gparks@katzandassociates.com](mailto:gparks@katzandassociates.com).

Find links to the Draft Mobility Study, the 3 Options, and the City Engineering Department project web page in a July 3 post on the ECCC Blog at <http://elcerritocommunitycouncil.blogspot.com/>.

### **CentrePoint Update**

By Jan Hintzman Rolando Community Council

The Monarch escrow for the CentrePoint site at 63rd and El Cajon Blvd. has run into some bumps and Monarch has stopped all work on their project, pending resolution of an issue with the city. We do not understand the details of the problem, but understand it revolves around the property's entitlement. It's in the lawyers' hands at this time.

The assumption when Monarch entered the escrow process was that the project carried the original Douglas Wilson entitlement for a condo/apartment project of 312 units. This entitlement and the approved map would enable Monarch to proceed with a project that met the terms of the entitlement without any required citizen or planning committee review. Their plan was to develop the details of their project within the constraints of the entitlement and submit them to the city for a "substantial conformance review." If they meet the city's conformance requirements, they would prepare the construction drawings and proceed as quickly as possible. Approvals by the Planning Commission and City Council would not be required because of the existing project entitlement.

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The Monarch principals earlier indicated their interest in sharing their project ideas with the Rolando community, and in understanding our concerns. But that, too, is on hold at this time. If the entitlements are deemed expired by the city, Monarch is not interested in proceeding.

It is important for us to understand that if the entitlements remain valid at this time, any developer is likely to proceed with a project that is consistent with the entitlement. Any proposed changes to the project that would raise "substantial conformance issues" will have little chance of success as the new owner will have paid for the land and for the development entitlements.

The RCC board will continue to follow this issue closely through the summer, and if Monarch, or any other developer, is in a position to proceed with development, we will inform the community and hold a special meeting (announced through our email list) to host the developer and hear proposed plans.

### **New District Lines Proposed for City, County, and State**

Based on 2010 U.S. Census results, new maps are being developed for City, County, State, and Federal legislative districts:

#### **City of San Diego**

The City of San Diego Redistricting Commission has developed 3 proposals, each adding a new 9th council district. Proposed district maps are available with the Agenda for the July 9 Redistricting Commission meeting. This agenda, contact information for comments, and the public hearing schedule are available on the Redistricting Commission website at:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/redistricting/index.shtml>.

#### **County of San Diego**

The San Diego County Redistricting Advisory Committee has developed 3 proposals for County Supervisor districts. The Board of Supervisors and the ACLU have also proposed district boundaries. These proposals, contact information for comments, and meeting schedules are available on the County of San Diego Redistricting web site at

<http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/redistricting/index.html>.

#### **State of California**

The California Citizens Redistricting Commission has developed draft district maps for State Assembly districts, State Senate districts, U.S. Congressional districts, and State Board of Equalization districts. The draft maps, contact information for comments, and meeting schedules are available on the Citizens Redistricting Commission website at:

<http://wedrawthelines.ca.gov/>.

### **El Cerrito Neighborhood Patrol Updates**

**By Patti Saraniero**

I hope everyone is enjoying summer, even with the unusually humid heat. A couple of things to be aware of:

- I am delighted to let you know that, due to promotions and re-assignments within the police

department, Officer Jenny Hall has returned as our Community Relations Officer. She has been great to work with and I'm glad we'll continue that through the summer until El Cerrito (north of the Blvd) moves to the Eastern Division.

- Please be aware that this week there was a Peeping Tom reported in the 5400 block of 55th Street. He was described as a white male, 20-25 years old, 6' tall, 150 lbs, wearing a dark-colored shirt. If you see a crime in progress, please call 911. If you see suspicious activity, please call the non-emergency number.
- Interesting fact - the city's code compliance dept collected \$146,000 in fines city-wide this past fiscal year. \$108,000 was collected from Mid-City alone. Lt Kaye assured us that this is no windfall for the city but Code Compliance did provide additional tools and technology for the College Car.

Lastly, I would like to thank Lt Charles Kaye as he transitions out of Mid-City to work in Vice. We have been very fortunate to have Chuck serve El Cerrito. Lt Andrew Hoffman will take over command of our service area (810) and then will handle the transition in September.

Also, Captain McKinney (who oversees Mid-City) will be at the FBI National Academy this summer through the transition. Lieutenant Todd Jarvis will be the Acting Captain through mid-September. In Capt McKinney's quarterly report, his discussion about the changes (moving the College Area to Eastern and North Park into Mid-City) will also positively impact how SDPD addresses prostitution on the Blvd. As you know, it is a long-standing issue and hampered by the fact that two divisions have traditionally covered the Blvd. Now, Mid-City will cover the Blvd entirely with the intent to better address prostitution.

### **Sober Living Facilities**

The ECCC Board of Directors proposed, at its meeting on Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, that the community be asked to vote on whether or not a letter should be sent from the ECCC to our 7<sup>th</sup> District Councilmember, Marti Emerald, in support of sober living facilities (see below). You can let the ECCC know, in advance if you approve of this letter, make comments on it or suggestions for changes by either calling **619-287-2460** or via e-mail to: [ECCC@cox.net](mailto:ECCC@cox.net):

"Dear Councilmember Emerald:

The ECCC supports the letter written by the CACC on June 15, 2011 concerning the reduction of nuisance housing in the College Area that has been a top priority for the CACC for several years. It appears that group housing, such as Sober-living facilities are now on the rise. Property owners and managers of "mini-dorms" are now advertising for group houses to use their properties in the College Area and there has been a significant increase in this type of usage over the past year.

We understand that over two years have passed since this issue was brought to your attention. Your working

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group on sober living met for eight months and has been adjourned for six months. A recommendation to Land Use and Housing was to come out of those meetings and a report was to be sent to Land Use & Housing. The ECCC supports the CACC's request for a finalized working group recommendation to Land Use & Housing or your proposed course of action concerning sober-living facilities. Jan Riley, Chairperson, ECCC."

### Have a Fun and Safe Summer!

By: Kristin Beattie, D.C.A., and Officers Jenny Hall, Louie Roman, and Rene Murillo, SDPD's Mid-City Division

#### HOME SAFETY TIPS for SUMMER

- ☐ Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave the house, even if you will only be gone for a few minutes. Come home to a hot house, not an empty house!
- ☐ When going on trips or just out for the evening, use automatic timers to turn indoor lights on and off to make it appear you are home.
- ☐ Consider informing your neighbors if you will be away from your house for an extended period of time; ask

them to watch your house and to collect your mail and newspapers.

- ☐ If you have house guests, familiarize them with your security precautions and make sure they follow them.
- ☐ Do not possess or use fireworks – enjoy professional fireworks displays, from a safe distance.

#### VACATION SAFETY TIPS

- ☐ The following are some common safety tips that particularly pertain to tourists:
  - o Use maps to plan routes before venturing out in a rental car.
  - o Avoid traveling in vehicles that are obviously rented.
  - o Avoid appearing to be a tourist.
  - o Be aware of surroundings and avoid suspicious characters.

#### At Your Finger Tips

Frequently there is insufficient space in the newsletter for documents, letters, address and e-mails for various city departments, etc. The ECCC Blog was created by Carl Luster and is a great tool for research on a huge range of topics affecting the Community of El Cerrito. You can investigate and use the blog at:

<http://elcerritocommunitycouncil.blogspot.com/>



## NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

Thursday, July 21, 2011

7:00pm to 8:30pm

Blessed Sacrament Parish Library

Come Join Us in Saying Farewell to Lt. Chuck Kaye & Welcoming Captain Andrew Hoffman to Mid-City's 810 Area  
Update on Northgate Gonzales Market  
Issues & Concerns of El Cerrito Residents

## COMMUNITY VOTE

Sober Living Facilities

#### PLEASE HELP US KEEP PRINTING THE NEWSLETTER THROUGH YOUR DONATIONS

I/we donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the printing of the El Cerrito Community Council Newsletter.

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Do\_\_\_\_\_ Do Not\_\_\_\_\_ print our name(s) in the newsletter. Send donation to

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Please call 531-2000 for loud parties or disturbances

#### Local Area Meetings & Committee Groups

**ECCC Meeting** - Third Thursday at 7:00 pm, Parish Hall, Blessed Sacrament Church, El Cajon Boulevard & El Cerrito Drive

**ECCC Board Meeting** - First Thursday at 7:00 pm, Library, Blessed Sacrament School, El Cajon Boulevard & El Cerrito Drive

**Eastern Area Communities Planning Committee** - Second Tuesday 7:00 pm, Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 2725 55th St.

**College Area Community Council** - Second Wednesday at 7:00 pm, College/Rolando Library corner of Montezuma & Reservoir

**College Area Project Review Committee** - First Wednesday at 7:00 pm, College/Rolando Library - Corner of Montezuma & Reservoir

**Crossroads Project Area Committee (PAC)** - Fourth Thursday at 6:30 p.m. College Avenue Baptist Church, 3rd floor, Administration Bldg, 4747 College Ave.

**Jan Riley, Editor – 619-287-2460**

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